



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

Fish and Wildlife Committee

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

3:00 PM

40 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553
Construction Conference Room

ZOOM LINK

<https://cccouny-us.zoom.us/j/86277677520>

| Dial: 888-278-0254 |

ACCESS CODE: 198675

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee.

1. Introductions and Statement of Conflict

A member who has a conflict should, prior to consideration of the decision: (1) publicly identify in detail the financial interest that causes the conflict; (2) recuse himself/herself from discussing and voting on the matter; and (3) leave the room until after the decision has been made.

Nicole Balbas, Susan Heckly, Kathleen Jennings, Daniel Pellegrini and Jamin Pursell attended the meeting. Roni Gehlke, Brett Morris and Cass Rogers provided advance notice that they would be absent. Al Domeyko (International Bird Rescue), Whitney Grover (Golden Gate Bird Alliance), Phil Kolmetz (International Bird Rescue), Lilly Lew (Marine Science Institute), Satoko Mills (The Watershed Project), Jill Ray (Office of District II Supervisor Candace Andersen), Bob Peoples, Jenni Shaw (Lindsay Wildlife Experience) and Roger Wachtler (John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited) attended the meeting. Maureen Parkes (CCC Department of Conservation and Development) and Hendrik Van der Meulen (Department of Conservation and Development) attended as staff.

2. Review and approve the draft minutes from the July 17, 2024 Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting.

[24-2926](#)

Attachments: [Draft Minutes 07-17-24](#)

A motion was made that this item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

3. Public Comment

Includes public comment on topics on the agenda and items not listed on the agenda. The FWC shall also accept public comment on agenda items at the time they are discussed.

There were no public comments.

4. Updates and announcements from staff and FWC members.
Includes discussion of implementation of actions authorized previously, correspondence received, and upcoming meetings of interest to the FWC.

Maureen Parkes updated the Committee on the following items:

- **Roni Gehlke, Brett Morris and Cass Rogers provided advance notification that they would not be able to attend the meeting today.**
- **Jarrold Bolliger resigned from the FWC District 3 seat.**
- **Roni Gehlke and Brett Morris provided their comments and questions regarding the grants via email and requested that they be shared with the Committee.**
- **The Board of Supervisors recognized Danny Pellegrini for a lifetime of outstanding and distinguished community service to the residents and natural resources of Contra Costa County, as recommended by Supervisor Glover. Danny has been on the FWC since 1982 and been instrumental in the awarding of over \$1,825,000 in Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund grants for projects that benefit the fish and wildlife in Contra Costa County.**
- **There are two FWC At-Large position terms expiring on December 31, 2024. The solicit notice went out August 8th and applications are due by November 4th.**
- **Lindsay Wildlife Experience provided draft wording for their Hives Alive exhibit. Susan Heckly and Kathleen Jennings looked over the wording and provided edits to them.**

Correspondence forwarded to Committee Members:

- **Emails from Supervisor Candace Andersen regarding upcoming vacancies on the Committee (4), Friends of San Ramon Creek Arundo Removal Project, The Museum of San Ramon Valley Celebrates the 90th Anniversary of the East Bay Regional Park District (3), EBRPD Coastal Cleanup, CCRCDD seeking individuals to serve on the Board of Directors (2).**
- **Emails from Supervisor Diane Burgis regarding Delta National Heritage Area Advisory Committee Seeking New Applicants, Delta Stewardship Council Seeks Public Comment on the Draft Tribal and Environmental Justice Issue Paper, and the Knightsen Wetland Restoration Project In-Person Community Meeting.**
- **An email from Supervisor Ken Carlson regarding the County Planning Commission to Review the Draft General Plan.**
- **An email from Supervisor Gioia regarding Coastal Cleanup at Shimda Park.**
- **An email from Supervisor Glover regarding Envision Contra Costa 2040.**
- **An email from Heather Rosmarin regarding Pleasant Hill's Community Services Day.**
- **Emails from staff regarding: Solicit Notice for Upcoming Vacancies, quorum checks, delivering packets, agendas, Draft Invasive Species Brochure, Fall Forum, and Danny Pellegrini's Board of Supervisors resolution.**

Newsletters and Announcements forwarded to Committee Members:

- **Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour - 2**
- **California Fish and Game Commission - 14**
- **California Wildlife Conservation Board letter sent to the Board of Supervisors**

regarding Roddy Ranch Restoration and proposed funding for the Mount Diablo Education Center

- **Contra Costa Resource Conservation District - 3**
- **Department of Water Resources - 11**
- **Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed -1**
- **Golden Gate Bird Alliance - 2**
- **John Muir Land Trust -1**
- **Kids for the Bay -1**
- **Save Mount Diablo - 2**
- **Urban Tilth - 2**

5. Consider the following CONSENT items:

24-2927

- a) Review the letter of appreciation received from Marine Science Institute for their 2024 Delta Discovery Voyage Program grant reimbursement.
- b) Review and accept the final report from Contra Costa Resource Conservation District for their 2023 “CSUEB, Concord Eco-Cultural Garden Outdoor Classroom” project.
- c) Review and accept the final report from Wildcat Canyon Community School for their 2023 “Educating Future Generations About Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Mitigating Stormwater Runoff at Wildcat Canyon Community School” project.

Attachments:

[MSI Letter of Appreciation 2024 grant](#)
[CCRCD Final Report](#)
[WCCS Final Report](#)

The Committee reviewed Item 5a; and reviewed and accepted Items 5b and 5c. The motion was made by Balbas, seconded by Heckly and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

6. Consider the 12 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund applications submitted by August 1, 2024. Consider making a recommendation to the Internal Operations Committee of the Board of Supervisors on this matter. Consider inviting one or more organizations to the following meeting if the Committee has further questions on the grant proposals.

24-2928

Attachments:

[Grant Table - 2025](#)
[Regions - WORKSHEET](#)
[Grant Table 2024 - for reference only](#)
[Grant Table 2023 - for reference only](#)
[2025 Grant Applications](#)

The grants were reviewed and discussed in detail. Grant applicants in attendance provided additional verbal and written information in response to the Committee’s questions. The written information is attached. FWC members Brett Morris and Roni Gehlke were absent and provided their comments regarding the grant applications via email. Their comments are attached. The Committee requested that four of the grant applicants provide additional written information which will be included in the

October 16, 2024 meeting agenda packet.

7. Discuss and finalize plans for the 2024 Fish and Wildlife Committee Fall Forum.

The Committee discussed and finalized plans for the Fall Forum. Danny Pellegrini and his crew will prepare the meal. The Committee members will assist with purchasing food and supplies, set-up and clean-up.

8. Determine the date and agenda for the next meeting.

Possible agenda items for upcoming meetings include:

- 2025 Grant Application Review
- Informational brochure on invasive species
- Delta Conveyance Project Update

The Committee scheduled a meeting for October 16, 2024 to continue the review of the 2025 grant applications.

Adjourn